

## **Center for Disabilities and Development (CDD)** ***Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities***

The Center for Disabilities and Development (CDD) is part of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. Formerly called University Hospital School, CDD was created by the Iowa legislature in 1952 as a long term residential school where kids with physical disabilities could go to school and also receive other needed services not available in Iowa communities at that time. CDD has evolved over the years in response to shifts in public policy that reflect the rising expectations of people with disabilities and their families for full community participation. For example, following the passage of the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*, CDD became a tertiary level diagnosis, evaluation, and treatment center. Each year, CDD's interdisciplinary clinical staff provide services to approximately 5,000 individuals from virtually every county in the state.

Since 1972, CDD has also been nationally designated as Iowa's University Center for Excellence on Disabilities (UCED) and this role broadens the scope of what we do. In addition to direct clinical services, we engage in:

- university training to prepare future professionals;
- community education;
- technical assistance;
- research; and
- information dissemination.

These "core functions" complement CDD's clinical programs and each one contributes in its own way to increasing the full community participation of people with disabilities. For FY 14-18, UCED core function activities are organized around five goals: *Self-Advocacy, Supporting Families, Inclusive Community Living, Health, and Employment*. CDD is part of a national network of UCEDs: see <http://www.aucd.org>

As Iowa's UCED, CDD receives an "administrative seed grant" from the federal Administration for Community Living that provides partial salary support for selected CDD faculty and staff to partner with other stakeholders to leverage external funding needed to finance initiatives that improve Iowa's service system. The basic rationale behind the UCED grant is important because it is what enables us to partner with DHS and other state agencies to help Iowa take advantage of a range of federal initiatives by leveraging grants that help the finance systems changes that are needed to build community capacity. For example, we have been one of DHS's closest partners over the past 15 years. We've helped DHS obtain and then implement:

- The Medicaid Infrastructure Grant (1999 to 2013)
- DHS's first Real Choices Systems Change grant (2002-2005)
- Robert Wood Johnson Cash and Counseling grant (2004-2007)
- Real Choices Systems Transformation (2005-2010)
- Money Follows the Person (2008-2016)
- SAMHSA Community Circle of Care (2006-2012)
- Balancing Incentive Payments Program application (2013)

NOTE: Generally speaking, it is illegal to use funding from one grant or contract to write proposals for new grants or contracts. For example, it would be illegal to use CMS funding from the Money Follows the Person grant to support writing a proposal for a new SAMHSA project. When CDD staff helped DHS leverage the Real Choices Systems Transformation, Money Follows the Person, and SAMHSA children's mental health system of care grants, it was the UCED grant that covered their time. Although CDD is a state agency, UCED staff are not funded by state money. They are supported on "soft money" (i.e. grants and/or contracts).

For more information about CDD's other UCED-related programs, please see our website: <http://www.uihealthcare.org/ucedd/>